

of their acrid properties cannot be used without roasting or boiling.

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A LIST OF THE CYPRÆIDÆ FOUND ON THE COAST OF NEW  
CALEDONIA AND LOYALTY ISLANDS.

BY RICHARD C. ROSSITER.\*

In this paper I have brought together sixty species, some never before recorded from this part of the world. Mr. H. Crosse in 1869 published a list in the *Journal de Conchyliologie* 3rd series, Vol. XVII., p. 36-49, where he enumerated forty-five species. But more specimens of some of these so called species have been found, reducing his number to thirty-eight; the other seven being spurious species or monstrosities.

Genus CYPRÆA.

1. CYPRÆA ARGUS, Linn.

Reeve, *Conch. Icon.*, pl. 3, fig. 8.

North Coast of New Caledonia; Isle of Pines and Loyalty Islands.

2. CYPRÆA ASELLUS, Linn.

Reeve, *Conch. Icon.*, pl. 18, fig. 98.

Nouméa; Loyalty Islands, found under stones and coral.

3. CYPRÆA CARNEOLA, Linn.

Reeve, *Conch. Icon.*, pl. 6, fig. 19.

New Caledonia; Loyalty Islands and Isle of Pines.

Found very large, as large as *C. talpa*, and has often been taken by non-scientific collectors for *C. aurantia*.

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\*Communicated by Mr. J. Brazier, C.M.Z.S.

## 4. CYPRÆA CRIBELLUM, Gaskoin.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 20, fig. 165-166.

New Caledonia. Very rare.

Two specimens have been found by Mr. Balansa. The species is rather common at the Mauritius.

## 5. CYPRÆA CYLINDRICA, Born.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 14, fig. 64.

Nouméa, specimens very fine.

## 6. CYPRÆA FELINA, Gmel.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 19, fig. 105 *b*.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch. pl. 32, fig. 392-395.

Lifou, Loyalty Islands ; not common.

## 7. CYPRÆA FIMBRIATA, Gmel.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 18, fig. 92.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 32, fig. 390-391.

Lifou, Loyalty Islands ; not common.

## 8. CYPRÆA HIRUNDO, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 19, fig. 104.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 32, fig. 382-384.

Nouméa, New Caledonia and Loyalty Islands.

## 9. CYPRÆA INTERRUPTA, Gray.

Zoological Journal, Vol. I., page 376, 1824.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 19, fig. 103, 1846.

*Cypræa Rhinoceros*, Souverbie, Journal de Conch., Vol. 13, page 156, pl. 5, fig. 1, 1865.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 27, fig. 271-274, pl. 37, fig. 535.

Ilot Amedée, or Lighthouse Island, rather common. Art Island, North New Caledonia (*R. P. Montrouzier*).

10. *CYPRÆA IRRORATA*, Solander.

Gray, Zool. Jour., Vol. 4, page, 80, 1828.

Reeve, Conch. Icon. pl. 22, fig. 126, 1846.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 29, fig. 304, 305, 1870.

Mare, Loyalty Islands, very rare.

11. *CYPRÆA ISABELLA*, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 12, fig. 51.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch. pl. 4, fig. 16-17.

*Cypræa controversa*, Gray, Zool. Jour. Vol. I., p. 144, 1825, Vol. 4, p. 71, 1828.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 27, fig. 258.

Nouméa, New Caledonia, and Loyalty Islands. Art Island, north coast (*R. P. Montrouzier*).

12. *CYPRÆA MICRADON*, Gray.

Zoological Jour., Vol. 4, p. 71, 1828.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 24, fig. 139.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 32, fig. 385-386.

Nouméa, New Caledonia, and Loyalty Islands.

13. *CYPRÆA NEGLECTA*, Sowerby.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 19, fig. 100.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 32, fig. 374-375.

Nouméa, not common; Prony Bay, south coast, collected by Mr. Brazier.

14. *CYPRÆA STOLIDA*, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 14, fig. 67.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 30, fig. 327-328.

*Cypræa ferruginea*, Humph., Cab. Cat. No. 113.

„ *rubiginosa*, Gmel., Syst. Nat. p. 3420.

„ *Crossei*, Marie, Journ de Conch. Vol. 17, p. 16, pl. 1, fig. 3, 1869.

Art Island, north coast (*R. P. Montrouzier*). Nouméa, (*E. Marie*). My own specimens come from Isle Nou and the Isle Ouen near the Isle of Pines. Pere Montrouzier has a fine series of *C. stolidus* showing the different stages up to the variety *C. Crossei*.

15. CYPRÆA TABESCENS, Solander.

Dillwyn, Cat. Vol. 1, p. 463, 1817.

Reeve, Conch. Icon. pl. 14, fig. 66.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 27, fig. 261-265.

Loyalty Islands, found in very fine condition.

16. CYPRÆA TALPA, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 2, fig. 5.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch. pl. 12, fig. 74-75-76.

Loyalty Islands; Isle of Pines and New Caledonia, specimens very fine, not common.

17. CYPRÆA TESTUDINARIA, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 3, fig. 9.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch. pl. 13, fig. 83, 84.

Loyalty Islands; Isle of Pines and New Caledonia; found very large, rare.

18. CYPRÆA URSELLUS, Gmel.

Kiéner, Coq. Viv. p. 99, pl. 33, fig. 4.

Nouméa; (*R. C. Rossiter*). Art Island, north coast of New Caledonia, (*R. P. Montrouzier*); very rare. I believe that this is only a variety of *C. felina*.

# GENUS LUPONIA, Gray.

## 19. LUPONIA AURANTIA, Martyn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 4, fig. 11.

*Cypræa aurora*, Solander, Sowerby, Thes. Conch. pl. 2, fig. 7-8.

Lifou, Loyalty Islands.

I have one specimen in my collection, got in 1877 in a native fish pot; it is the first and only one found in these waters. It is a fine coloured specimen, larger than any I have yet seen from Fiji Islands, or the Solomon Islands, where the species is smaller but of a richer flesh colour.

## 20. LUPONIA BREGERIANA, Crosse.

Journ. de Conch., Vol. 16, p. 277, 1868, Vol. 17, pl. 1, fig. 2, 1869.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch. pl. 37, fig. 536.

Nouméa Harbour, 8 fathoms; Isle of Pines, south of New Caledonia, dredged by Lieut. Heurtel. Mr. Sowerby makes this fine and rare species a variety of *C. Walkeri*, Gray. The *C. Bregeriana* is very peculiarly besprinkled with fine white specks which may be observed to be imbedded in the enamel something like the *C. testudinaria*. These white specks are wanting in *C. Walkeri*.

## 21. LUPONIA CAURICA, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon. pl. 11, fig. 46.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch. pl. 23, fig. 188-189-197.

Loyalty Island; New Caledonia and Isle of Pines.

The variety *obscura* differs from the type form by having the dorsal surface of a blackish brown; they are found at Isle Nou, Isle Ouen, Pomte Sud, and Prony Bay, New Caledonia.

## 22. LUPONIA CLANDESTINA, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 19, fig. 106.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 19, fig. 139-140-141.

*Cypræa moniliaris*, Lamarek.

Nouméa, New Caledonia, very common. Loyalty Island and Isle of Pines.

## 23. LUPONIA CRIBRARIA, Linn.

\* Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 16, fig. 81.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 20, fig. 163-164.

*Cypræa comma*, Perry, Conch. pl. 21, fig. 5.

Nouméa, New Caledonia and Loyalty Islands. I have a specimen from Isle Ouen of a blackish brown on the back only showing a few of the white blotches and not the white round spots; the specimen is one inch and a half long,

## 24. LUPONIA CRUENTA, Gmel.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 10, fig. 38.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 23, fig. 185-186-187.

*Cypræa variolaria*, Lamarek.

Ilot Amedée or Lighthouse Island near the entrance to the Port of Nouméa, rare.

## 25. LUPONIA EBURNEA, Barnes.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 9, fig. 35.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 17, fig. 108.

Nouméa Harbour, obtained by dredging, found also at the Loyalty Island and Isle of Pines.

## 26. LUPONIA EROSA, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 11, fig. 43.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 28, fig. 110-115.

New Caledonia; Loyalty Islands, Isle of Pines.

27. LUPONIA ERRONES, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 13, fig. 56.

*Cypræa ovum*, Gmeln., *C. subflava*, Gmel.. *C. olivacea*, Lam.

New Caledonia; Loyalty Islands; Isle of Pines.

I have specimens from Nouméa with the back of a blackish-brown, the base arched in the centre, rostrated at both ends, the teeth on the columella nearly absent; teeth on the outer lip very large, and placed deep down. One specimen has the appearance of having been dug out like a native canoe.

28. LUPONIA ESONTROPIA, Duclos.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 16, fig. 80.

Lifou, Loyalty Islands, very rare. I have only seen one specimen, and that is in my collection.

29. LUPONIA FLAVEOLA, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon. pl. 18, fig. 95.

Lifou, Loyalty Islands; Ilot Amedée or Lighthouse Island, New Caledonia.

This species has been confused with and called *C. spurca* by the collectors here, but is quite distinct and in no way related to the *C. spurca*, Linn. found in the Mediterranean. Mr. H. Crosse in the Journal de Conchyliologie 1869, p. 44, doubts the *C. spurca* being found in New Caledonia, on the authority of Pere Montrouzier.

30. LUPONIA GANGRENOSA, Solander.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 18, fig.

Loyalty Islands, rare.

I am not quite sure of this being *C. gangrenosa* from our waters, as it comes so near to *flaveola*.

31. LUPONIA GASKONI, Reeve.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 22, fig. 122.

Lifou, Loyalty Islands.

I am not quite sure of this as the specimen is sea worn, it may be a worn *C. flaveola*.

32. LUPONIA HELVOLA, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 15, fig. 72.

*Cypræa citrina*, Kiener, (non Gray).

Loyalty Islands, specimens very fine and large. New Caledonia; Isle of Pines.

33. LUPONIA LUTEA, Gronovius.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 20, fig. 110.

*Cypræa Humphreysii*, Gray.

Near Nouméa under stones in deep water; both varieties are very rare. The animal is scarlet red.

34. LUPONIA LYNX, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon. pl. 9, fig. 33.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 15, fig. 85\*, 86\*, 87\*, 88\*.

*Cypræa Kanelli*, Linn., *squalina*, Gmel. *Cypræa Caledonica*, Crosse, var. Journ de Conch., Vol. 17, p. 41, pl. 1, fig. 1, 1869.

New Caledonia; Loyalty Island; Isle of Pines.

I exhibit several curious malformations, including the *C. Caledonica*. I may mention that most of the specimens of this species showing malformations are from New Caledonia and mostly in the neighbourhood of Nouméa.



## 35. LUPONIA MAPPA, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 6, fig. 18.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch. pl. 5, fig. 24-28.

*Cypræa nigricans*, Montrouzier, Journ de Conch., Vol. 23, p. 220,  
pl. 8, fig. 5, pl. 9, fig. 3, 1875.

Loyalty Islands; New Caledonia; Isle of Pines.

I have a splendid specimen found in a native fish pot at Lifou, Loyalty Islands; the dorsal surface is of a warm reddish tint, base bright pink with the aperture of a dark bright orange. I have another variety found on the reef at Isle Ouen, the back is of a blackish-brown, the dorsal opening very narrow with one branching to the left; base violet, dotted with brown, and a large violet-brown blotch on the left side, teeth orange red.

The variety *nigricans* Montrouzier was found at Kanola, east coast of New Caledonia. I have seen another specimen of *nigricans* in Pere Montrouzier's collection obtained at Conception near Nouméa under stones. Since then I have obtained another specimen, and consider the *nigricans* to be nothing more than distorted or malformed *Cypræa mappa*, Linn.

## 36. LUPONIA PANTHERINA, Solander.

Reeve, Conch. Icon. pl. 3, fig. 7.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 11, fig. 69-71.

Lifou, Loyalty Islands, very rare.

I have seen two found there alive, although I have not got it in my collection from there; it was the Rev. Pere Lambert who obtained it.

## 37. LUPONIA PORARIA, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 18, fig. 99.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 26, fig. 236-237.

Loyalty Islands; New Caledonia, not common.

## 38. LUPONIA PUNCTATA, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 19, fig. 101.

Loyalty Islands, after gales. Art Island, north New Caledonia (*Montrouzier*). Nouméa (*Bréger*).

## 39. LUPONIA VITELLUS, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 5, fig. 14.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 6, fig. 32-34.

*Cypræa salita*, Rumph., *dama*, Humph., *fulva*, Gmel.

Loyalty Islands; New Caledonia; Isle of Pines.

This species is also found distorted or malformed. I send some specimens showing the curious malady which affects this species alone in New Caledonia; they are all from the neighbourhood of Nouméa.

## 40. LUPONIA SUBVIRIDIS, Reeve.

Conch. Icon., pl. 12, fig. 48.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 24, fig. 176-178.

Nouméa Harbour, obtained by dredging. Art Island, north New Caledonia (*Montrouzier*).

I have a pair dredged that measure  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches long and stout in proportion.

## 41. LUPONIA TIGRIS, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 4, fig. 12.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 21, fig. 172-175.

Loyalty Islands; New Caledonia and Isle of Pines, very common.

I have three very fine varieties from the Grand Reef near Nouméa, one specimen has the margins of a fine cream colour the dorsal surface of a fine rich burnt orange, with darker spots, the second specimen is very pale, more of a dirty white, with the

spots nearly blended one with the other, dorsal surface light yellow; the third specimen has the dorsal surface of a fine rich cream-yellow mottled with round and oblong spots and blotches of a blackish-brown colour, margins with regular large blackish blue clouded spots.

42. LUPONIA WALKERI, Gray.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 12, fig. 50.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch. pl. 18, fig. 123-124-125.

Art Island, north coast of New Caledonia.

This is given on the authority of Pere Montrouzier. I have never seen the species from here; it may be obtained at the north by dredging; my kinsman Mr. Brazier informs me that he dredged splendid specimens off the north-east coast of Australia and at Darnley Island, Torres Straits, at 25-30 fathoms.

43. LUPONIA ZIGZAG, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 18, fig. 97.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 19, fig. 135-138.

Loyalty Islands, a few have been found, very rare.

GENUS ARICIA, Gray.

44. ARICIA ANNULUS, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 15, fig. 71.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 26, fig. 252-253.

*Cypræa Noumeensis*, Marie, Journ de Conch., Vol. 17, p. 18, pl. 2, fig. 6, 1869.

Loyalty Islands; New Caledonia; Isle of Pines, very common.

The variety or malformation *C. Noumeensis* is very rare, not having been found by me during a residence of eleven years, what few have been found were near Nouméa.

## 45. ARICIA ARABICA, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 1, fig. 2.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 10, fig. 59, 61, pl. 28, fig. 282-283.

*Cypræa amethystia*, Linn., *fragilis*, Linn., *elegantina*, Duclos.

New Caledonia; Loyalty Islands; Isle of Pines, very common.

I have a fine series of specimens showing the various stages of this species up to the malformed or distorted forms of the variety *Cypræa elegantina* of Duclos.

## 46. ARICIA CAPUT-SERPENTIS, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 11, fig. 44.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch. pl. 12, fig. 72-73.

*Cypræa reticulum*, Gmel., *albella*, Lam.

Loyalty Islands; New Caledonia; Isle of Pines, common.

We sometimes get the variety *Cypræa caput-anguis*, Philippi, but it is very rare.

## 47. ARICIA MAURITIANA, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 1, fig. 1.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 9, fig. 51, 52.

*Cypræa fragilis*, Born., *regina*, Chem., *trifasciata*, Gmel.

Loyalty Islands; New Caledonia, very common.

I have a jet black variety from the north of New Caledonia showing no trace of the spots.

## 48. ARICIA MONETA, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 15, fig. 74.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 26, fig. 244-251.

*Cypræa icterina*, Lam., An. sans Vert. Vol. 7, p. 387.

*Cypræa Barthelemyi*, Bernardi, Journal de Conch., Vol. 9, page 48, pl. 1, fig. 3-4, 1861.

New Caledonia ; Loyalty Islands ; Isle of Pines. It is very common ; the variety *icterina* is found, but less common ; the variety *Barthelemyi* is very rare, although I have several monstrosities obtained at Isle Nou, near Nouméa, which have the posterior end rostrated with the canal nearly closed, the base in some is quite flat, others again are arched and excavated in the centre.

49. *ARICIA OBVELATA*, Lam.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 15, fig. 69.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 26, fig. 254-255.

Loyalty Islands, very rare. Art Island, north New Caledonia (*Montrouzier*.)

50. *ARICIA VENTRICULUS*, Lam.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 8, fig. 28.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 1, fig. 3-4.

*Cypræa achatina*, Solander ; *carneola*, Martyn (non Linn).

Lifou and Mare, Loyalty Islands, very fine and large.

GENUS *CYPRÆOVULA*, Gray.

51. *CYPRÆOVULA ADAMSONI*, Gray.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 24, fig. 135.

Anse Vata, near Nouméa, (*Mr. Balansa*).

I know of only two specimens found since the first by Mr. Balansa a few years ago, specimens white.

GENUS *EPONIA*, H. and A. Adams.

52. *EPONIA ANNULATA*, Gray.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 21, fig. 114.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch. pl. 31, fig. 339, 340.

Isle Amedee, New Caledonia, very rare.

## 53. EPONIA CICERCULA, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 21, fig. 116.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 31, fig. 343-346.

Loyalty Islands; New Caledonia.

## 54. EPONIA GLOBULUS, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon. pl. 21, fig. 118.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch. pl. 31, fig. 347-348.

Loyalty Islands, rare.

## GENUS PUSTULARIA, Swainson.

## 55. PUSTULARIA LIMACINA, Lam.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 16, fig. 82A.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 25, fig. 223-224.

*Cypræa interstincta*, Wood, Index Supp., pl. 3, fig. 9.

Loyalty Islands, rather common, Nouméa, New Caledonia, rare.

## 56. PUSTULARIA NUCLEUS, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 15, fig. 70.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 33, fig. 399-400.

Loyalty Islands, common after gales.

## 57. PUSTULARIA STAPHYLÆA, Linn.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 16, fig. 82B.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., 25, fig. 228-229.

Loyalty Islands; Nouméa, New Caledonia, specimens very fine.

I have a malformed specimen from Isle Nou, pear-shaped, having the extremities rostrated and curved to the right, base reddish brown, teeth extending across on each side in conspicuous ridges, back with a rather deep central longitudinal groove.

## GENUS TRIVIA, Gray.

## 58. TRIVIA CHILDRENI, Gray.

Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 21, fig. 115.

Sowerby, Thes. Conch., pl. 33, fig. 403-405.

Loyalty Islands ; Neew Caledonia, not very rare.

## 59. TRIVIA EXIGUA, Gray.

Desc. Cat. Cyp., p. 15, 1832.

*Cypræa tremeza*, Duclos, Mag. de Zoologie, pl. 25, 1833 ; Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 26, fig. 148 ; Sowerby, Thes. Conch. pl. 36, fig. 510-511.

*Cypræa gemmula*, Gould., Proc. Bost. Soc., Vol. 2, p. 27, 1845.

Lifou, Loyalty Islands, found on the beaches after heavy gales.  
Pot Island, north coast of New Caledonia, (*Montrouzier*).

## 60. TRIVIA ORYZA, Lam.

Kiener, Coq. Viv. p. 143, pl. 52, fig. 2.

*Cypræa oriza*, Crosse, Journ de Conch, Vol. 17, p. 49, 1969.

*Cypræa nivea*, Solander ; *pediculus*, Linn. (in part).

Nouméa and Loyalty Islands.

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF THERAPON FROM THE  
MACQUARIE RIVER.

BY E. P. RAMSAY, F.L.S., CURATOR OF THE AUSTRALIAN  
MUSEUM, SYDNEY.

THERAPON MACLEAYANA, *sp. nov.*

D.  $\frac{1}{11}$ . A.  $\frac{3}{8}$ .

General form convex, above slightly concave from the first dorsal to the snout ; the eye large, its diameter is twice in the

distance from the snout to the centre of the orbit, and five times in the head; the space between the orbits is one-third greater than the diameter of the eye; the head is four times in the total length; the caudal fin emarginate; height of body from between the first dorsal spine and the base of ventral is three times and a half in the total length; the fifth dorsal spine is the longest, nearly three times as long as the first, which is short and stout; the third anal spine is very strong and thick, twice the length of the first and as long as the fifth dorsal; scales small, about 94 rows along the lateral line, preoperculum strongly serrated at its lower angle and hinder margin; operculum with two spines, the lower one often double; preorbital and coracoid serrated, the maxillary reaches to the perpendicular from the first nostril, no scales on the snout or upper part of head. General colour blackish, the belly silvery, fins opalescent when alive.

I found this species spawning in the Macquarie River in the month of November, and at the same time the following species were also taken.

THERAPON RICHARDSONI, *Casteln.*

The Silver Perch.

CTENOLATES FLAVESCENS, *Gunth.*

The Yellow Belly.

The colour when alive is of a beautiful pale olive-green, the belly silvery, tinged with golden-yellow, in full grown specimens the back becomes of a darker olive-green, fins opalescent, the eye black with a narrow white ring, head like the back. They spawn in October and November, young fry apparently of this species were taken about half an inch in length.

OLIGORUS MACQUARIENSIS, *Cuv. et Val.*

Fine specimens of this beautiful fish were taken, from two or three ounces in weight up to six pounds; they vary considerably



in colour, some being of a pale golden-yellow with olive vermiculations on the back, others olive-green or olive-brown above, and golden-yellow or yellowish-olive below. I also found swarms of the young fry about half an inch in length.

The Cat Fish *Copidoglanis tandanus* was also caught, all five species being taken with rod and line from the same spot.

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#### DESCRIPTION OF TWO NEW BIRDS FROM THE SOLOMON ISLANDS.

BY E. P. RAMSAY, F.L.S., &C.

##### HALCYON SOLOMONIS, *sp. nov*

All the upper surface blue, with a slight wash of greenish on the head and back, quills black, the outer webs of a rich cobalt-blue; tail blue, vermiculated, a slight tinge of green on outer webs; a stripe from the lower mandible under the eye greenish-blue, ear-coverts bluish back, lores black, no white spot or superciliary stripe, no white nape spot; collar round the neck white or slightly tinged with rufous, bounded in front by a narrow black line from the earcoverts; on either side of the chest nearly extending across it a rufous patch, the feathers all margined with blue, under wing coverts white, all the remainder of the under surface, and under tail-coverts white, bill black, a triangular patch of white at the base of the lower mandible, feet brownish.

A second specimen has a pure white broad collar, bounded above and below with black, and an irregular patch of feathers on the side of the chest, margined with blackish-green, the under wing coverts and all the remainder of the under surface white, no tinge of rufous anywhere on this specimen; in front of the eye from the nostril a narrow line of white, lores black, no superciliary stripe, head and back washed with greenish, blackish green next the collar on the interscapular region.